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*Status of plague in Osaka—Use of rat typhoid.*

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, April 25, 1900.

SIR: Continuing the current history of the plague in Osaka from my report of April 21, I have the honor to inform you that 3 more fatal cases have since occurred, making a total of 6 in all since the reappearance of the disease on April 8, of which, certainly, 5 have died.

In my report of January 2, I alluded to an experiment, as about to be tried in Osaka, in introducing among the rats of that city the germs of "rat typhoid (or typhus)." I have been unable to obtain any information as to the success attending this attempt at the wholesale destruction of the dangerous rodents, if it was actually made, but it is now reported that the same measure is to be tried on a large scale in the same city, and I shall endeavor to follow its results.

The total number of plague cases in Formosa, up to the 23d instant, from January 1, is given as 478, with 243 deaths.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.**Report from Marseilles.*

MARSEILLES, FRANCE, May 8, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit under the same cover the abstract of bills of health, and to make the usual weekly report, for the week ended May 5, 1900: May 4, bark *Clara*, Marseilles to Sapelo, in ballast, crew 11, inspected and given bill of health. May 5, steamship *Hesperia*, Marseilles to New York, via Italian ports, general cargo, crew 45, was inspected and given bill of health.

I wish to invite the attention of the Bureau to the fact that the plague has again appeared on the Mediterranean at Port Said; also that the 2 most important lines from the Orient, the Pacific and Oriental and the Messageries Maritimes, touch at 3 if not more ports infected with the plague. The ports are Hongkong, Aden, and Port Said; these lines both bring passengers and cargo to Marseilles.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. ANDERSON,

*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

MEXICO.

*Report from Vera Cruz.*

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, May 12, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended May 12: Deaths from yellow fever, 6; smallpox, 8; pernicioso, 4; all causes, 42. There were 4 cases of yellow fever reported during the week. During the past two weeks I have inspected 7 vessels, and issued them bills of health. I have issued health certificates to 216 passengers to New York and Cuba.

During the past week there has been blowing a norther, which might have had some influence on the yellow fever situation, there being fewer deaths this week than the last.

There have been some deaths from yellow fever on the isthmus of